

## Continuum of Care



Injury



911/EMS



Local Level 3 or  
Level 4 Hospital



Transfer\*



Regional Level  
1 or 2 Hospital



Rehabilitation\*



Home, Work,  
and Life

\*If needed

# Minnesota State Trauma System

## Minnesota Trauma System Achievements



98% of Minnesotans live within 60 minutes of a designated trauma hospital.



More than **half** of trauma team activations occur in Level 3 and 4 trauma hospitals, which provide initial life-saving care in most of the state.



MDH has designated **122 of 133** eligible hospitals as trauma hospitals.

## What is a trauma system?

A trauma system is a network of emergency medical services (EMS) and hospitals that ensure severely injured patients are rapidly assessed, stabilized, and treated at facilities appropriate to the complexity of their injuries.

Trauma hospitals are a resource to their communities, not just for the timely and critical care they provide, but for education and injury prevention efforts for all ages.

MDH and the State Trauma Advisory Council (STAC) provide overall leadership for the system in partnership with the state Office of Emergency Medical Services and the six Regional Trauma Advisory Committees (RTACs) throughout the state.

## Injury: the silent public health crisis

- Trauma is the leading cause of death in Minnesotans ages 1-44.
- The number of potential years of life lost before age 65 due to unintentional injury is greater than any other cause. It is more than double cancer and cardiovascular disease combined.
- Elderly patients are disproportionately represented in Minnesota's trauma data. This highlights the need for injury prevention initiatives and timely access to trauma services for the elderly population.

## Inside a designated trauma hospital

- Standardized training of staff.
- Standardized and readily accessible resuscitation equipment for all ages.
- Best practice protocols and benchmarks for treatment.
- Critical review of cases and continuous improvement of care.
- Participation in statewide data collection to improve care across the state.



## Healthcare workforce shortages resulting in delays

- Workforce shortages across the state have led to chronic delays in transfer of critical patients.
- The State Trauma Advisory Council (STAC) is working with trauma hospitals on contingency plans to care for critical patients at local facilities.



Follow the QR  
code to the state  
trauma website

**m MINNESOTA**  
STATEWIDE TRAUMA SYSTEM

Visit the website to view a map of trauma hospitals in the state, sign-up for the e-Trauma Update (newsletter), and find additional hospital resources.

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